

## Message Text

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21

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FEA-01 INT-05 OES-06 /076 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:TJCAROLAN:PDW

APPROVED BY NEA:ARDBAY

NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

NEA/IAI:WBSMITH

EB/ORF/FSE:DHART

L/NEA:DSMALL

----- 078686

P R 260011Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129138

EO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ENRG JO IS US

SUBJECT: OIL EXPLORATION IN DEAD SEA

1. DON HENDERSON OF FILON CORP., U.S. FIRM HOLDING OIL EXPLORATION CONCESSION IN JORDAN, INFORMED US MAY 20 THAT IT IS PREPARING TO UNDERTAKE SEISMIC OPERATIONS IN DEAD SEA AS EARLY AS SECOND HALF OF JULY 1976, AS FOLLOW-ON TO SIMILAR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ALREADY CARRIED ON BY FILON IN NORTH JORDAN. NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY FILON TO GO AHEAD WITH DEAD SEA OPERATIONS, IN PART BECAUSE FIRM CLEARLY WISHES TO TEST USG AND ISRAELI REACTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER. (FILON SAYS IT HAS IN PAST KEPT AMBASSADOR PICKERING ADVISED OF ITS PLANS AND ACTIVITIES-- BOTH FOR HIS OWN INFORMATION AND THAT OF EMBASSY TEL AVIV--  
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BUT HAS NOT COMMUNICATED DIRECTLY WITH ISRAELI OFFICIALS.)

2. HENDERSON SAID DEAD SEA SEISMIC OPERATIONS ENVISAGED BY FILON WOULD (A) BE CONFINED TO JORDANIAN-CONTROLLED WATERS EAST OF 1948 ARMISTICE AND 1967 CEASEFIRE LINES (WHICH TOGETHER BISECT DEAD SEA FROM NORTH TO SOUTH), AND (B) INVOLVE NUMBER OF SMALL BOATS AND PONTOON CRAFT MANNED BY APPROXIMATELY TEN FILON TECHNICIANS (BOTH U.S. AND BRITISH CITIZENS). DURATION OF WORK ESTIMATED AT 30-45 DAYS. PURPOSE OF BRINGING FILON'S PLANS TO OUR ATTENTION,

ACCORDING TO HENDERSON, WAS TO "AVOID SURPRISES" THAT MIGHT CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONCE WORK IS IN PROGRESS.

3. FOR TEL AVIV: IF EMBASSY AMMAN HAS NO OBJECTION, YOU SHOULD INFORM APPROPRIATE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES OF FILON'S DEAD SEA EXPLORATION PLANS, MAKING CLEAR THAT YOU ARE DOING SO ONLY FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES AND TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE FUTURE MISUNDERSTANDINGS. PLEASE REPORT REACTION SOONEST. SISCO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEAD SEA, PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 MAY 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Subject:** OIL EXPLORATION IN DEAD SEA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, JO, IS, US, FILON CORP  
**To:** AMMAN TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
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